

Leo Dubinski, Assistant Director for  
Materials, Division of Compliance, Hq.

NOV 8 1962

Donald I. Walker, Director  
Division of Compliance, Region IV

Original Signed by  
Donald I. Walker

PETROTOMICS COMPANY, P. O. BOX 184, CASPER WYOMING -  
SOURCE MATERIAL LICENSE NO. SUA-551

CO-IV:GHS

This is in reference to our TWX, dated November 5, 1962, concerning an explosion at the subject licensee's uranium ore processing mill.

G. K. Coates, Mill Superintendent, reported by telephone on November 6, 1962, that they had determined that the explosion was not caused by an accumulation of solvent fumes (see Item G of TWX) but rather by an accumulation of Butane gas. Coates stated that they had discovered a high concentration of Butane in the pit where the gas is transferred from the storage tank to smaller portable tanks. Coates said that they have determined that the gas had migrated to the SX motor control center via an electrical conduit. Coates stated that a reoccurrence of the accident was being circumvented by the packing of all conduits which originate in the gas transfer pit.

We are enclosing a copy of a letter dated November 6, 1962, from Coates, in which he confirms his telephonic report of the accident. As previously stated in our TWX, we do not intend to initiate a formal investigation of this accident.

Encl.

Ltr frm Petrotomics Company dtd 11/6/62

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